

ASCENT

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DAEMEN COLLEGE, AMHERST, N.Y.

November 15, 1979

GYM: IN THE NEAR FUTURE

What every happened to the Daemen College gym? In a statement given to the Ascent by Dr. Robert S. Marshall, president of Daemen College, Dr. Marshall answered questions concerning the present status of the gym.

"The Board of Trustees recently authorized the services of Milstein, Wittek, Davis & Associates to design an athletic facility for the Daemen campus. The de-

sign of the structure stemmed from a study conducted by Athletic Director, Ken Murray, on what our projected use would be in the 1980's and 90's.

"The Gymnasium will be a rather modest but attractive structure which will include a full basketball court with bleachers, two cross courts for intramural activities, locker and shower room facilities, weight training and exercise rooms and the usual array of offices."

The projected cost of the facility is \$1,300,000, though the design has not gone to bids yet. Dr. Marshall hopes that in a few weeks, an artist's rendering will be available to show with some accuracy how the building will appear. The east end of the front lawn is the proposed site of construction.

struction.

When will construction begin? According to Dr. Marshall, "It is my fondest wish that the building will be started in March of 1980, however, that depends on factors over which I have no control (money, the economy, etc.). I have been told by Mr. Milstein that we would expect the building would take from 12 to 18 months to complete."

When asked how he feels about the construction of a gym on campus, Dr. Marshall replied, "Personally, I am very pleased that we will have a gymnasium on campus. A four-year college must serve needs other than those confined to the classroom. Athletic activity (formal and informal) are a necessary and desirable part of student life. As long as we have

contributors who are willing to stand most or all of the cost of the facility, I think that it is a very wise move on the part of the Board of Trustees to consider such a construction. It certainly will do a great deal for the spirit of Daemen College." The Capital Campaign, designed to raise the needed funds, has \$500,000 pledged of the projected \$1,300,000 cost of the gym.

Barbara A. Thompson

COUNSELING: A CATALYST

Kitty Grace started as director of the Counseling Service at the end of August. She is the only full-time staff member, but she is aided by two part-time interns, Laura Myers and Felicia Dad, who are both graduate students.

Ms. Grace told me that the purpose of the Counseling Service is, "to provide for the emotional concerns of the students." And this help is given through counseling.

They can also provide referrals for people who would prefer to see someone off campus or, if someone off campus would be more appropriate for them.

"A lot of people are worried or hesitant to come in because of the idea of going to the Counseling Center. It carries a certain stigma for some people. And they believe that to come in is to indicate that you're unstable or unequipped to deal with your own problems." Ms. Grace said. "But that is NOT true," she emphasized.

"We have all kinds of people who come in here for a variety of reasons. Sometimes they just need an objective person to talk to when everyone else is too close to them to understand."

"The main barrier we have," she said, "is breaking down the stigma associated with counseling." She points out that however, "People usually find us when they really need us." But, "People don't have to wait and use the Counseling Center as a last step." She added, that it is a sign of maturity to be able to recognize a problem. And if you can identify a problem early before it becomes serious come in then.

Presently the Counseling Service is working along with the Learning Center, HEOP, and Academic Advisement, in developing a program to help those who have received deficiencies. The program will, "basically be designed to assist students who are experiencing pressure or difficulties with Academic life. It will be a support group for students who want to improve their study behavior and methods dealing with academic pressure."

The program is planned to start the week of the 19th. Anyone who is in this situation should stop by the office of Counseling Services and leave their name.

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WHY AM I HERE?

"I just want a degree and then I want to get the hell out of here," said one girl.

Attitudes shape the character of a school. Is this then the character of Daemen?

The answer is that there is no single answer. There are as many different attitudes toward college as there are college students.

"College," commented one student, "should not only provide you with what you want to learn, but what you should learn. It should give you a living experience."

"It's a situation where you're on your own. It should teach you enough responsibility to understand how to adapt to people. I want to come out of here with more than just an education. I want to leave here with real experience."

"I think of college as a trade school for the mind." Said Kirk Lynch, a business major. "I want college to give me the skills necessary to obtain a rewarding career and perform it to the best of my abilities."

"College is a bus stop," observed one English Major. "Most people are here just to get a diploma, that label, and not have to gain the knowledge, do the work, necessary to get it, I don't think that most of the students here at Daemen would hesitate to do it."

Liz Soto, an education major, put it this way:

"College should provide you with a variety of knowledge. It should make you a better person and teach

you how to deal with others. In this society, High School just isn't enough. There's so much competition that you need a college education to give you an edge. Most students just say 'let me study, let me get that piece of paper and get this over with and get out and make money.' But people like that really don't know what's happening. They miss the most important part of what college is all about."

"College," said one Freshman, "is part of a larger process. It's a process of maturing. You can't expect college to give you things that it just can't give. You have to have certain qualities within you already before you can gain anything from college. College isn't preparation for adult life; it's the beginning of it."

These general attitudes are the prerequisite of a more immediate question: Does Daemen College give a student what he needs?

Kirk Lynch voiced a representative opinion.

"I think that Daemen is an exceptionally good college. It prepares one for life and gives them a basis for what they're going into. The teachers are very good and have a clear understanding of what they are teaching and the size of the college allows the student access to them."

"Also, there's the co-op program. I think that every student in the school has goals in terms of job placement and I think that the co-op program is an excellent way

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THEATRE ARTS: A DISTINCT PROGRAM

In the first semester of 1977-78 the number of students (full and part-time) enrolled in the Theatre Arts concentration was 9. Two years later, due to the joint efforts of the department staff and students, and the Admissions Office, that number has reached 23.

When compared to the enrollment in Natural Sciences and related concentrations, such as Physical Therapy and Medical Records, this figure seems very small. But compared to other Liberal Arts concentrations the enrollment is significant.

When the enrollment was dropping two years ago it became necessary to reassess the question of whether there should be Theatre Arts at Daemen College. It was the contention of many that the department should not be eliminated. The smallness in this particular department is really a strength. "Our strength has always been the amount of individual attention we give to our students," declared Christopher Wilson, Program Director for Theatre Arts. "Our challenge now is to take advantage of the increased enrollment, and still keep that quality."

Every student has the opportunity to become involved in any aspect of theatre he/she chooses. At larger institutions a student could never expect a role in every show. Here, students are involved in every show, whether they are getting acting experience, directing experience, or production experience.

In previous years the Theatre Arts Department was part of the English Department. There was no formal distinction between the two programs. The head of the English Department also served as chairperson for Theatre Arts. "This year," explained Chris Wilson, "the Educational Policy Committee has recognized us as a distinct department. We are still a part of the English concentration but we are a distinct program now." The department also has its own Program Director, Mr. Wilson. Wilson added that the department's re-established identity will be beneficial to department efforts, and will permit the department to exert more independence.

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EDITORIAL

After spending the weekend at a large, top-ten, Ivy League School (Cornell), I came back appreciating what a good thing we have at Daemen.

In the first place, the minute I told people that I went to Daemen they told me they "never heard of it" and then proceeded to look down their noses at me. One person literally turned his back.

The attitude - the head in the sand - was rather amusing. Possibly because Daemen IS a small school located in an urban setting, student attitudes seem to be a little broader in focus. Lesson learned? That Daemen College is by no means as "confined" as some people believe it to be. And it was refreshing to return to Daemen where college is a means and a beginning but certainly not an end . . . the best thing we learn here is that college is a tool for future life. We won't graduate into the world dazed and blinking - we'll have a little bit of an idea what to expect. If "Ivy-League" equals four years of Dream World - they can have it. I'll take four years at a private college any time.

I'll pass right over some of the rudeness I experienced - except to say that I've never seen a guest at Daemen treated the way I was or rather, ignored. People here really reach out - whether it is a guest,

or an incoming freshman, or family visiting for the weekend. Too, I really witnessed a lot of stereotypes at the larger school - more than I ever believed possible. Again, this could be because when there are a lot of people, there's more possibilities of categorizing them. Sure, there are stereotypes here that's inevitable. But people are more willing to give up the accustomed images - they aren't as stuffy. There's room to grow here - personally as well as on a larger scale.

Being "looked down on" because I wasn't from a larger school was also very amusing. I'm not accustomed to feeling inferior to anybody - that may be a personal quirk but I think it has a lot to do with the atmosphere here. It has to do with the growth. YOU ARE WHAT YOU MAKE OF YOURSELF - and not the name of the institution on your diploma. People here are used to "getting places" by hard work.

Every future employer, every person who has interviewed, will agree that attitude plays a large part in future life. The next time they agree on is job experience. At Daemen, it's possible to develop both.

Ivy League, eat your heart out.
Lorraine E. Leslie

The editorial comments which appear in the ASCENT are not necessarily the views of the entire staff. Any comment contrary to these opinions is welcomed. Letters to

the Editor will be published anonymously and the authorship will be kept confidential, SO LONG AS THE AUTHOR SIGNS THE ORIGINAL LETTER.

Daemen College

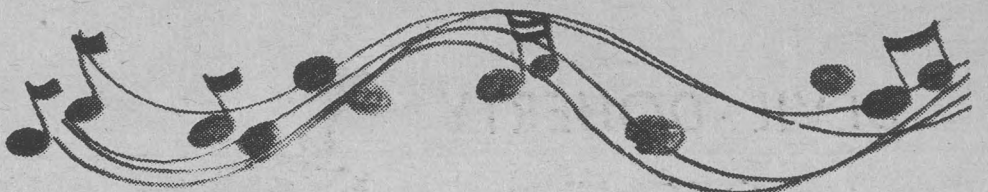
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MUSIC AT DAEMEN

The Department of Music at Daemen College will sponsor an evening of French wind music performed by guest clarinetist Allen Sigel, with Daemen College faculty members Cheryl Gobbetti, flute, Darlene Reynard, bassoon, and guest JoEllen Harris, clarinet, Ronald Richards, oboe, and Lowell Shaw, French horn. The recital, a repeat of one presented at SUNYAB in late October, is free and open to the public, and will be held at the Wick Center, Daemen College, 4380 Main Street, Amherst, on Monday evening, November 19th at 8:00.

PROGRAM: PASTORALE (1936), Suite (after Corrette) (1938), and LA CHEMINEE du roi rene by DARIUS MILHAUD; sonatas for two clarinets and for clarinet and bassoon by FRANCIS POUCLIN; "Abime des oiseaux" from the QUATOUR POUR LA FIN DE TEMPS

(1942) by OLIVER MESSIAEN; and the Quintet (1951) by JEAN FRANCAIX.

"Thursday Night Live: Jazz in the Rathskeller" at Daemen College will feature, every Thursday evening during the college semester, performances by the "Straight Ahead" Jazz Quintet and guest groups. The admission-free series is sponsored by the Daemen College Department of Music, and local musicians are invited to participate in the jam session that will be a part of each evening's music making.

The "Straight-Ahead" Jazz Quintet is headed by Daemen music faculty member, Paul Stencel on sax, and includes Curtiss Chase on trumpet, Ron Peterson on keyboard, "Manny" on bass guitar, and Emory Godeck on drums. The Rathskeller is located in Wick Student Center at Daemen College, 4380 Main Street, Amherst.

PLANS FOR BLACK HISTORY WEEK UNDER WAY

The Black Student Caucus is looking for talent and singers to participate in their festivities scheduled for Black History Week, February 3rd - 10th "1980". All kinds of talent is needed for their Talent Show which will be held on Friday, February 8, 1979. Singers are needed for The Gospel Choir,

which will also perform during Black History week.

Everyone is invited to participate. Sign your name, phone no. talent and mailbox no. and put it in Mailbox 215 or 279 in Duns Scotus.

By Maurice Henderson

THEATRE ... continued from page 1

Mr. Wilson charged that the Theatre Arts Department has been insufficiently supported by the rest of the college community. He added that the department receives less support from the student body than a Theatre Arts Department in a more traditional liberal arts college would. He cited the large percentage of commuters and both Part-Time Faculty and Students as possible factors for the lack of support. "We need to reach out to the college community," he stated. President Dr. Marshall suggested that the department attempt a "dinner-theatre" production as a possible way to reach out. The Fall production, "Gaeties," which featured 1890's entertainment in a bar-room setting (The Rathskeller) was developed "partially in response" to that suggestion, according to Mr. Wilson.

What do Theatre Arts majors do after they graduate? Mr. Wilson was pleased to say that, "While few B.A. programs in Theatre place a majority of their graduates in Theatre, the performance of this department is astonishing." Wilson continued, "Rosalind Cramer and Toni Wilson (staff) founded the Theatre of Youth Company several years ago in part to create entry-level jobs for their own graduates." After just a year with the company, graduates (and students) have professional acting experience to add to resumes.

Mr. Wilson and the department staff are pleased with the attention that has been given to the Theatre Arts program, but he admitted, "We're not really where we'd like to be yet." As for future areas

which he sees deserving of attention, Mr. Wilson suggested touring productions and enhancement of theatre facilities. A part of the college fund raising drive is supposedly being targeted towards expanding theatre facilities.

Peter Stevens, Director of Admissions, offered other suggestions for future projects. Mr. Stevens urged that to "increase exposure" of the Theatre Arts program, the department might consider joint productions with two year schools and also, cooperative arrangements with local high schools.

Mr. Stevens also suggested that the Department sponsor a "Theatre Arts Symposium." The symposium could be open to students and faculty and might focus on such topics as "Careers in Theatre Arts," and "What is involved in Theatre productions?" He referred to similar programs that other departments have sponsored in the past - "Art Portfolio Workshop," and "Careers in Music Programs." He added, "The Theatre Arts Department could do this very easily."

While it is important to generate interest in the Theatre Arts program outside the college community, support of this department from within is crucial. Students and faculty should get involved in Daemen's Theatre Arts program go to the productions, or try out for the productions. You don't have to be a Theatre Arts major to have a role in the plays. Your support really is appreciated, and necessary for the success of the department.

Cathy Castellano

DEVIL DOHERTY DOES IT AGAIN



There's no use hiding it. We all have one or more lurking in our deep, dark subconscious. We are all afraid of something - unless, of course, you're too afraid to admit it. For those of you who don't believe that statement, here is a short quiz to help you find your weak points. In each question the last choice is the "right" (i.e. less-than-neurotic) answer. No peeking.

1. When I'm climbing a ladder I want to:
 - a) climb down
 - b) ask somebody to pass the Valium
 - c) pay not attention to it
2. If I see a spider in the bathroom I:
 - a) run into the next room
 - b) scream
 - c) give it a good swat with a textbook
3. On Friday the 13th I:
 - a) stay home and throw a pound of salt over my left-shoulder
 - b) avoid walking under ladders, black cats and stepping

- c) on cracks in the sidewalk
 - c) remember that I forgot about a term paper due
4. My first reaction in a dark room would be:
 - a) Where's the lights?
 - b) Where's the door?
 - c) OK, you guys, you can all yell "surprise" now
 5. In a crowded elevator I wish that:
 - a) someone would press the emergency bell
 - b) I could get out - even if it is between floors
 - c) the elevator would move faster because I'm already 10 minutes late for an exam
 6. At any time I speak before a group I:
 - a) try to keep my knees from knocking
 - b) make such a fool of myself that I'll never be asked to speak in front of people again
 - c) hope nobody asks questions
 7. I avoid flying in airplanes because:
 - a) it makes me dizzy
 - b) DC-10 is not my favorite

- number
 - c) by the time I get my luggage I could walk from here to Cleveland and back
8. During thunderstorms I
 - a) hide
 - b) wear earplugs to keep from hearing the noise
 - c) hope the TV antenna works
 9. If I have to get vaccinated I
 - a) ask for a bullet to bite on
 - b) pray the needle isn't six inches long
 - c) make sure this sort of thing is covered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield.
 10. My worst fear is
 - a) getting peanut butter stuck on the roof of my mouth
 - b) little old ladies wearing chains and leather jackets
 - c) having the beer companies go on strike right before a party

OK, now that that's over with (unless you have a fear of quizzes) you can now assess your mental state. This isn't meant to be the last word in neurosis but it's a first (shaky) step in the right direction. I hastily add a postscript: if you did answer correctly in each case, I suggest you examine the possibility you may be hiding something from yourself.

(Author's Note: If any member of the psychology department has any complaints to voice about this, I would gladly accept any comments. Please do it by letter, however, as I have this phobia of irate individuals).

Linda Doherty

WHY? ...

... continued from page 1

"I've been very disappointed with what the school has done as far as academics is concerned. Daemen is becoming a technical school. The new nursing department is a prime example of the direction in which the school is heading. This school doesn't attract Fine Arts people anymore; it attracts PT people. There are only two English majors in the senior class. If you look at the past yearbooks you'll see that a few years ago there were twenty or thirty. Expansion is fine but we shouldn't reject other areas such as the Arts.

"You can see that each year the same courses are being given in English and Theater arts. Granted: they are important courses. But there's no real diversity. The only thing I can really give them credit for in Fine Arts are some of the literature courses."

"One of the main mistakes I see this school making," said a Freshman, "is not a matter of academics, but a matter of coordination. Each department seems like its own little empire. It's like each one is giving the kids a piece of a puzzle and not really taking the time to show him where those pieces fit into one another. Dr. O'Neil told me that all knowledge is a single entity. Well I don't see where the school lets that entity take shape.

"What they should do is have interdisciplinary meetings where, say, someone from the English department gets together with someone from the History department and students from those concentrations get together and see how the two can help compliment each other. Something like that shouldn't be difficult in a school of this size."

"The food is the only thing I have a complaint about," said Liz Soto. "Now that may not seem like it has anything to do with education, but it does. If you don't eat right you can't think right. You need the right type of food. But I don't think this school is really providing it.

But, although there was some dissatisfaction with college in general and Daemen in particular, most seemed to agree on the importance of college.

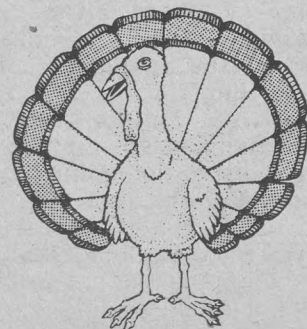
Liz Soto summed it up.

"Knowledge is power. It wouldn't matter if you had a million dollars because someone could always take it away from you. But they can't take your mind."

Kirk Lynch added a further comment.

"What you get out of college is what you decide to take. But you got to know what you want. Now I didn't go to school right away. I took some time off after High School and worked at different jobs. That helped me to understand what was best for me - what I really wanted. If you don't know what you want out of college you can be damn sure you're not going to get it. No one can help you if you can't help yourself."

Brain Mulally



GAITIES IN THE RAT

The Daemen Theatre fall production of GAITIES showed everyone who attended what it was like to sit in a saloon during the 1890's. The production was directed by Toni Smith Wilson. The evening was set up to be a series of Gay Nineties songs, dancing, laughter and just plain fun to be part of.

While sitting in this 19 century saloon we were entertained by the melodrama entitled, "Only An Orphan Girl." This funny, moving, and sometimes unpredictable story of a young orphan girl who is being pursued by the nasty villain fit perfectly into the setting of a bar from that era.

The one character in the play who drew much attention from the

audience was the villain type character played by Stephen Paul Shaefer. He played this part just to the audience's liking. Boos and hisses came from the audience whenever the piano player began to play that slow anticipatory music that told you the villain was coming on stage.

The fun of sitting in this bar with singing waiters and waitresses dressed in typical 1890 garb, and serving you beer and peanuts made everyone present feel like they were part of the show.

The audience was a crucial factor in making sure this production worked. Between acts of "Only An Orphan Girl" there were Can Can

dancers both male and female who displayed their talents of the Can Can.

Sing alongs with such songs as, "While Strolling Thru' The Park One Day," "The Band Played On," "Daisy Bell," and many more gave the audience delight from being part of the act.

Maurice Henderson who was the M.C. for the evening never let his audience become bored. When a song was meant to be sing along, he made sure that everybody sang along.

For those who attended GAIETIES you were part of a well staged, directed and performed, "Evening of 1890's Entertainment".

By Rosemary Gambacorta

Counseling ...

... continued from page 1

Kitty mentioned the Drop-In Center which is run by the Peer Counselors every Tues. and Weds. afternoon in Wick, from 1-5. "It's not a counseling center or even an arm of the counseling center," she said. "It's geared to be a student place for a student who just wants to come in and talk."

She has confidence that the program will be a success but it will take some time for the idea to catch on. When UB started a similar program it took about a year for it to catch on but, now they have three Drop-In Centers.

In a joint effort with Student Life the Counseling Service sponsored the Values Clarification Programs on the 13th and 14th. They will

also be presenting related films Thurs. the 15th in WSR from 11:00-2:00.

The next week Laura Myers, a counseling intern, will be running a Women's Awareness group. Felicia Dad, another counseling intern, will conduct a small group experiment with one dorm, on dealing with stress. It is planned to begin around exam time.

If anyone is still interested in receiving their Strong - Campbell results it is never too late to come in and get them. "It is surprising to me the number of people who don't come in and get their results," Ms. Grace said, "Especially when they're in a decision making period."

Susan Pries.

announcements



If school or different things are getting you down, or you just feel like talking to someone, why not come in to the Peer Counselor's new Drop-In Center? It's open every Tuesday and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. in Wick 113-115. All are welcome!

Students! Check out the new "Ride Board" in Wick center! If you can give a ride or if you need a ride - the ride board is for you! For more info, contact Diane Manning in the Student Life Office . . .

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ARIES: March 21-April 19. You turn toward inner areas of your life at this time. This may increase your interest in the occult. This is a time of endings for the old and beginnings for the new.

TAURUS: April 20-May 20. Stay well within the realms of the law at this time. You may be called upon to take care of someone who is close to you. Be careful about forming any new partnerships at this time. Look at all of your relationships with an "honest eye."

GEMINI: May 21-June 20. This is a good time for those who enjoy their work, but for those who don't - difficulties may arise. Pay close attention to your health, nutrition, and personal hygiene now. This is a good time to do volunteer work in social institutions.

CANCER: June 21-July 23. You are probably looking for spiritual

relationships now versus sexual. Be careful not to idealize your partner at this time. Gambling at this time is on a high risk level. Artistic creativity is stimulated now.

LEO: July 24-August 23. You will notice psychological changes taking place within you now. You may find your home life in much confusion at this time. You may not see eye to eye with your parent(s) now. Improve physical conditions of your home now.

VIRGO: August 24 - September 22. Latent psychic abilities may be stimulated at this time. The structured thinker may experience difficulties now. Be as clear as possible in all of your communications.

LIBRA: September 23 - October 22. Confusion about property matters may be experienced now. Do not gamble now if you worry

about losing. Be extra careful about managing your monies and possessions at this time.

SCORPIO: October 23-November 21. You may look to someone stronger than you at this time for mental and emotional support. You may find yourself meeting the real you at this time; this is important to both you and your relationships. You may also find yourself taking care of someone you love now.

SAGITTARIUS: November 22-December 21. Take time to withdraw from the fast pace of your everyday life and examine yourself and see what you have accomplished. Intuition and sensitivity are more important to you now. You may experience most difficulties if you examine your life and find you have not been true to your own spiritual needs and personal self.

CAPRICORN: December 22-January 19. You are attracted to those who share your ideals now. Make sure that your ideals (as well as your friend's) are real and not illusions. Psychic and Spiritual matters may attract you now.

AQUARIUS: January 20-February 18. You may become involved with psychic and occult matters in your professional life now as well as in your personal life. You will probably learn one or more basic truths about life at this time. You may also find yourself involved with social work settings at this time.

PISCES: February 19 - March 20. Before you act upon any decisions at this time, make sure you know ALL of the facts. Take care not to play any ego games with others now. You should place your concern on your higher consciousness at this time as well as spiritual truth.